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Cc: ROSAURO DELROSARIO/R5/USEPA/US@EPA  
Date: 10/21/2010 12:48 PM  
Subject: Chemetco Interview

X  
Y

09/28/2010

Interviewed jointly at the Chemetco Site  
Estate of Chemetco  
Hartford, IL

*Interview Record  
(Redacted) Chemetco  
Employees*

X and Y preferred to be interviewed jointly as their information complimented and reinforced with accuracy the other's responses to questions. X is the administrative manager for the bankruptcy estate. X oversees the records on site, has knowledge of site history, administers procedures, cases, claims, and performs the administrative matters for the bankruptcy court.

Y is administering the details of the sales of Chemetco residual assets. Y is a company former employee in the capacity of sales. Y is familiar with suppliers. Y stated that Y served the company in previous capacities as a laborer, equipment operator, foreman, scrap metal buyer, and also managed warehouses. Y stated that the Illinois EPA interviewed Y. At the time of this interview, I did not have an opportunity to review or had knowledge of that interview. Y has been handling the sales of Chemetco assets of scrap materials since 2003 for the Estate of Chemetco. The remains of Chemetco is now called the Estate of Chemetco in Chapter 7 of the bankruptcy laws and proceedings. It all ended on October 31, 2001. The company was brought down by severe financial problems, bad scrap markets, environmental problems, fines, and credit from banks dried up. These negative factors all lead to bankruptcy.

X has been employed since 1978. X worked in capacities including the scale, accounts payable, buyer, assistant to the personnel director, safety, and employee benefits to the plant closings. X is now the administrative assistant to the bankruptcy trustee. X coordinates payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable information. X does not prepare the payroll. The bankruptcy trustees are both X's and Y's supervisors.

Concorde was a purchasing arm for Chemetco. Concorde purchased scrap metals for smelting. X or Y (hereafter referred to as "they") did not know if Concorde was part of the Chemetco Corporation family structure. Notwithstanding, Concorde was a corporation with its independent legal status. Chemetco would refine and process the scrap metals. Concorde would take the finished goods and sell them. Juan Suarez operated Concorde. They did not know Suarez' title. Concorde was in existence from

1987-1993. Suarez may be possibly contacted at Total Metals Recycling located in Granite City telephone 1-866-470-5763. When Concorde was at the Hartford Illinois location, it may have had about 40 employees. John McRaven (don't know if alive or deceased) was the controller, Bill Faulkner resides in Chesterfield Missouri. There was a controller for the plant side and for the commercial side. Faulkner was on the commercial side William (Bill) Cassiday was the controller on the plant side. Cassiday resides in Granite City. Dennis Meyer was a senior buyer and an officer in some capacity. Meyer works for Total Metals. The commercial manager was Jim Durbin. Durbin resides on Martha's Vineyard. Jon Seibel was an accountant (accounting) and worked for Concorde management. Seibel resides in Columbia Illinois. Concorde had maybe 14-15 warehouses.

Triangle Metallurgical Company had as many as 45 warehouses. These warehouses were used as scrap collection points. Scrap metals were collected locally and sold off. Scrap metals were brought to Hartford for refining. The bulk of the metals went to Hartford. They didn't know if Triangle Metallurgical (Triangle) was part of the Concorde legal structure or were separate corporations. The legal representative for Concorde may have been Emmett Fitzgerald on Market Street in Alton, Illinois. Fitzgerald was also the legal representative for Chemetco and Concorde Trading. Triangle purchased metals for the smelting operation in Hartford. William (Bill) Wegrzyn ran Triangle. Triangle was another corporation and is/was where the Total Metals property is today. Miami imported metals from Central and South America, Puerto Rico, and Mexico. Some came direct to Hartford and some went through the warehouses.

Propriedades Esmeralda (a company) out of Monterey Mexico bought metals in Mexico and shipped them direct to Hartford Illinois. Esmeralda also shipped metals to warehouses in Dallas and Houston Texas. Jose Lopez operated Propriedades Esmeralda. Lopez had a business agreement with Suarez. Broker Trading managed by Dennis Meyer out of El Paso Texas sold scrap metals to the refinery. Some metals was also traded for other metals. Catmet Company located in Chicago has now changed to Industrial Assets Recovery out of Harvey Illinois. Catmet closed but a new company was formed call Industrial Assets Recovery. They said that all of these companies are mentioned in the bankruptcy proceeding documentation. Joseph Leahy ran Catmet and resides in Joliet Illinois. All of these companies were called "insiders" in the bankruptcy proceeding.

Mascot was another scrap metal supplier. they didn't know if Mascot had an actual warehouse. A lot of the metals (lead mostly) that came out of Chemetco in Hartford Illinois went to Midco Company in St Louis Missouri. Midco would take crude solder and refine it into pure lead and tin. Midco was located on Spring Street but the building is no longer there.

Concorde Trading sold catalytic converters to Multi Medco located in Anniston Alabama. Multi Medco is still operating today. Par Transportation was considered an insider and named in the bankruptcy proceeding. Daniel Suarez was a cousin of John Suarez and owned Par Transportation Company. Daniel Suarez was on the Chemetco's payroll. Industrial Recycling Services out of Canton Ohio was operated by Harvey Roth. Roth

had a partnership or business relationship arrangement with John Suarez. Roth worked for Concorde at one point. Industrial Recycling is no longer active. Roth is maybe in his 70's and may reside in Canton Ohio.

Warehouse Management Services (a separate corporation) operated the warehouses. Pioneer Metals Corporation was a holding company and the shareholder for Chemetco. Pioneer owned Chemetco but they didn't know when. There were Pioneer warehouses known as Transformat. All of the warehouses are or were under Chemetco or Pioneer Warehouses. They said that the bankruptcy documents would have all of this detailed.

When John Suarez purchased Chemetco in 1993, Patrick Mike Flynn of Flynn & Diamond out of Belleville Illinois represented and was the registered agent for Chemetco. Don Samson, the current trustee of the Estate of Chemetco, has the records of the Estate of Chemetco today. The bankruptcy was filed on November 13, 2001. Laura Grandy, who was appointed trustee of the Estate of Chemetco until March 10, 2010, has all the Chemetco background information. She would know about the history of the Estate of Chemetco. Grandy could be contacted at the federal courthouse in East St Louis. Grandy is a federal bankruptcy judge now.

The properties (warehouses) were mostly leased. Some real estate was owned by John Suarez and Joe Leahy. Key players of Warehouse Management Services Inc were: John Suarez, Joe Leahy, Dennis Meyer, and William Cassidy. There are no warehouses operating today. Border Trading Can Company (an insider) sold scrap to Chemetco. Border was not a warehouse. Dennis Meyer and Carl Gonzalez operated Border Trading Can Company located in El Paso Texas. Meyer was Vice President of Chemetco in later years.

On the premises in Hartford in the back room are binders from 1999-2001 with warehouse records. The records consist of among other records, month end reports, expenses, payroll. When Chemetco closed for business, warehouse records and especially scrap was shipped to Granite City. X does not know where the warehouse records went or what happened to them. There is one mobile home type trailer on the property that has records. Some records that were located in a deteriorated house and some records stored in the garage were ate up and destroyed by mice, termites, etc. Some salvageable records from the house garage were brought to another trailer and the rest to the maintenance store room.

After Concorde closed in later years, all the warehouses were operated by Warehouse Management Services. Prior to this time, the warehouses were operated by Concorde Trading, and Triangle Metallurgical Company. All the warehouses got started through Triangle around 1985-86. Concorde became involved around 1985-86. All the warehouses began with Triangle, then Concorde, then Warehouse Management Services Inc. Many of the same people were the owners of these companies. They did not know the percentage of ownership Pioneer had. Pioneer was a shareholder of Chemetco. Mike Flynn (Flynn & Diamond) out of 23 Public Square Belleville Illinois was the attorney for Chemetco. He would know the legal structures of the companies.

John Suarez, Dennis Feron located in Belgium (founder of Chemetco), Bill Wergzyn were the owners of Triangle. Mike Flynn is the person to ask about all the legal structures, operators, and owners of the warehouses. Pioneer was just a legal entity with probably no physical operations. The warehouses functioned as logistic support, accumulated materials to be shipped to the refinery at Chemetco. The individual warehouses would have limited records such as scale tickets, payroll, check registers. Otherwise, the warehouse records were centralized by Warehouse Management Services physically located at Chemetco in Hartford Illinois.

Anita Hurst Mueller handled the bookkeeping for Warehouse Management Services in the 1990's. Mueller works for Tital Metals Recycling in Granite City Illinois. Mueller resides in Mitchell Illinois. Maybe she is in her late 40's now.